

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JOHANN 00676 250833Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 /029 W
-----251159Z 097595 /13

R 250800Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5795
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 0676

CAPE TOWN ALS FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB SF
SUBJECT: BLACK TRADE UNION LEADERS MEET IN JOHANNESBURG MARCH
23 TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE FEDERATION

1. LEADERS OF SIXTEEN BLACK TRADE UNIONS AND ONE REPRESENTING COLRED AND INDIAN WORKERS MET IN JOHANNESBURG MARCH 23 TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW BLACK TRADE UNION FEDERATION. NO FINAL CONCLUSION WAS REACHED, AND STEERING COMMITTEE WAS APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE ATTITUDES OF UNIONS' MEMBERSHIPS TOWARD FORMING ALLIANCE. STEERING COMMITTEE IS TO PREPARE REPORT WITHIN SIX WEEKS.

2. THERE HAS BEEN NO NATIONAL BLACK TRADE UNION FEDERATION SINCE EARLY 1960'S WHEN TWO FORMER FEDERATIONS COLLAPSED WITH SAG'S BANNINGS OF THEIR KEY OFFICIALS. SOME BLACK UNIONS JOINED MULTI-RACIAL TUCSA (TRADE UNION COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA), BUT AT PRESENT THERE ARE ONLY SIX UNIONS SO AFFILIATED. ONE OF THEM IS NATIONAL UNION OF CLOTHING WORKERS (23,000 MEMBERS, GENERAL SECRETARY LUCY MVUBELO),
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WHICH IS ONLY TUCSA AFFILIATE WHICH WAS REPRESENTED AT MARCH 23 MEETING. OTHER UNIONS REPRESENTED AT MEETING HAVE DECLINED TO JOIN TUCSA BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE IT HAS NOT BEEN SUFFICIENTLY FORCEFUL IN REPRESENTING BLACK UNIONS AND THEIR MEMBERS' INTERESTS.

3. UNIONS REPRESENTED AT MARCH 23 MEETING CLAIM COMBINED

MEMBERSHIP OF 56,000 AND ARE BASED IN JOHANNESBURG,
CAPE TOWN, PORT ELIZABETH, AND DURBAN. EIGHT OF
JOHANNESBURG UNIONS REPRESENTED AT MEETING ARE ASSOCIATED
WITH URBAN TRAINING PROJECT, CHAIRED BY SKAKES
SIKAKHANE, GENERAL SECRETARY OF FOOD AND ALLIED WORKERS
UNION. JOHNSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 25-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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